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for the vertebrates chiefly by Nissl, and gives in the first of what promises to be a series of contributions to this subject an account of the nerve cells of certain gastropods: *Helix*, *Arion*, and *Limax*. Exclusive of nuclei, the bodies of the nerve cells in these animals are composed of an apparently homogeneous ground substance containing many small granules usually arranged in rows. From the reactions of these granules to dyes, especially to methylene blue, they are regarded as similar to the chromophilous substance in the nerve cells of vertebrates. They are often grouped in spindle-shaped masses which resemble the "Körner" of vertebrate nerve cells. Fibrillæ, which differ in their staining qualities from the ground substance as well as from the granules, are believed to occur both in the bodies of the cells and in their axis-cylinder processes. In the majority of cells the fibrillæ show a concentric arrangement. The chromophilous granules form rows on or between these fibrillæ, but are not to be regarded as thickenings in the course of a fibrilla. In *Helix* it is interesting to note that structures comparable to centrosome and centrosphere have been identified. G. H. P.

Forestal Zoology.—Under the title *Forstliche Zoologie*,¹ Dr. Eckstein, Docent at the Forestry School of Eberswalde, publishes a manual of zoology as viewed from the standpoint of the student of forestry, in which not only the animals themselves, but the effects that they produce on plants are described and figured.

Zoological Notes.—The Report of the U. S. Commissioner of Fish and Fisheries for the year ending June 30, 1897, recently issued, contains as an appendix of 340 pages, with 80 plates, a comprehensive manual of fish culture, based on the methods of the United States Commission.

Dr. Ludwig Plate has described,² under the name *Macrophthalmia chilensis*, an interesting cyclostome. This form comes from fresh water, is about three feet in length, with compressed form; bluish black above, silvery white beneath. The most important structural features appear to be the large and well-developed eyes, much like those of teleosts, and the nasal opening not at the tip of a nasal papilla. There are seven gill openings; the teeth of the oral hood are simple and more like those of *Myxine* than those of *Petromyzon*. A full anatomical description is promised later.

¹ Eckstein, Karl. *Forstliche Zoologie*. Berlin, Parey, 1897. 8vo, viii + 664 pp., ff. 660.

² *Sitzungsberichte d. Gesellsch. f. Naturf.* Berlin, Freund, 1897.